

# **Program Evaluation Survey**

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THIS PROGRAM**

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|--|--|-------------------------|
| <b>1. County</b>                               | Sacramento                                     |                         |
| <b>2. Program Name</b>                         | Sacramento Day Reporting Center                |                         |
| <b>3. Mailing Address</b>                      | 3201 Florin Perkins Road, Sacramento, CA 95626 |                         |
| <b>4. Research Manager</b>                     | Susan Wilcox                                   |                         |
| <b>5. Research Manager's Phone</b>             | (916) 753-6007                                 |                         |
| <b>6. Person responsible for Data Tracking</b> | Steve Clanton                                  |                         |
| <b>7. Phone/Fax of Data Tracker</b>            | 916-875-0286                                   | <b>FAX</b> 916-875-0276 |
| <b>8. Contract Researcher(s)</b>               | Susan Wilcox<br>916-875-0225                   |                         |

## **THE PROGRAM**

### **9. Briefly describe interventions that will be used in this program.**

The Day Reporting Center will implement an extended day reporting (8:00 AM 8:00 PM), intensive electronic monitoring/supervision community-based multi-service program that provides (a) individual, group, and family counseling, (b) academic/special education, (c) job vocational skills enhancements, (d) life skills development, (e) recreational activities, (f) mentorship, and (g) referral linkages with community agencies. On-site individual mental health treatment will be made available. Chemical dependency education groups will also be offered on site. Participants will sign a Behavior Contract developed from individual assessments and follow-up case management procedures which incorporate a continuum of graduated accountability sanctions staff will use when responding to contract violations. The Contract will outline specific behavioral expectations, including adherence to a pre-determined curfew, abstinence from alcohol and drugs, cooperation with parents or foster parents, and daily attendance at schools or other on-site programs.

### **10. Briefly describe, in general terms, the expected beneficial effects of the program (especially the benefits as they relate to what you are going to measure; e.g., if the primary dependent variable is "grade point average," then the goal would be to improve the grade point average.**

The goal of the Day Reporting Center Program is to minimize the incidence and impact of crime in the Sacramento community. Participation in the Program will result in a (1) decrease in the rate of subsequent juvenile arrests; (2) increases in probation completion rates; (3) increased rate of school attendance and improvement in grades; (4) increased rate of restitution payments; and (5) in reduced rates of court-ordered modifications to placement or secure detention.

**11. Name and briefly describe the type of research design that you intend to use to determine whether or not this program produces the desired outcomes.**

True experimental design with random assignment.

**12. Briefly describe the process evaluation research that you intend to conduct.**

The process evaluation plan will relate to the design, organization, resource commitment, and implementation of major program components. Data will be compiled which will describe the program components, staffing levels and assignments, participants, and factors that might affect post-intervention behaviors. Participant data will include age and gender characteristics, family composition and functioning characteristics, school/education record, prior delinquency history and dispositions, prior record of detention and placement commitments, history of substance abuse, nature of instance offense, and risk/needs assessments information. Program data will include numbers of youth and families served, programmatic and service delivery activities including program and service budgets/costs and any changes over time. Data will also be collected on program discharge outcomes, length of time and days of supervision, duration and intensity of counseling, classes taken, vocational training, mentor program participation, remedial education received, school attendance/performance, and system of sanctions and rewards implemented through the Center.

**COMPARISON GROUP**

**13. Will there be a comparison group?**

Yes

**14. If you answered 'no' to #13, how will the effectiveness of the program be evaluated?**

N/A

**15. Will the treatment and comparison group subjects be randomly assigned from the same pool of subjects?**

Yes

**16. If you answered 'no' to #15, what kind of comparison group will you use?**

N/A

**17. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning the comparison group subjects.**

All participants in the treatment and comparison group will be under the supervision of the Sacramento County Probation Department. The comparison group of subject offenders will meet the same eligibility criteria as targeted offenders who receive intervention services through the Center. Both study groups will only include post-dispositional youth. A new centralized screening procedures will be developed through Probation Intake and the Courts to identify the initial pool of treatment and comparison referrals. Random assignment will be made by the Probation Department after a judicial determination that the Program would be in the best interest of the minor. Probation Officers will determine which probation referrals meet eligibility criteria. The Court Officers will note eligibility on court report. Judicial officers (judges and referees) will rule as to suitability for program and note on Minute Order. Kids assigned randomly to Center, but who do not sign behavior contract, have never started treatment. The start date of intervention services is the date the behavior contract is signed. NOTE: No matching variables will be used in the selection of treatment and comparison group cases.

**18. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the comparison group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).**

Probation status: Second-time probation referral with or without wardship. Age: 10-16. Risk Factors: two or more risk factors involving (a) family issues: lack of supervision, control, criminal family influence, family violence, home factors; runaway; and (b) school problems: attendance, academic, and behavior problems, (c) substance abuse: pattern of alcohol and/or drug use; and (d) delinquency patterns: gang identification, theft, and delinquent patterns.

**19. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for the comparison group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).**

- \* Age
- \* Gender
- \* Family composition and characteristics
- \* Case demographics (gender, ethnicity, family background, number of siblings, child abuse or neglect history, and residency patterns.
- \* Most recent Juvenile Hall Risk Assessment score
- \* Prior arrest and court adjudication history
- \* Prior record of post-disposition detention (Ricardo M time)
- \* Nature of referral offense
- \* School/education record
  - Enrolled or not enrolled in school
  - Scholastic achievement: at grade or below
  - Are they enrolled in remedial education course of study
  - Number of days absent and expulsions during past 12 months
- \* Substance abuse history (self-report)
  - Drug of choice (use adopted county-wide definitions)
  - Frequency of use
  - Parental drug/alcohol use

**20. Will the comparison group be matched to the treatment group in terms of any variables?**

No

**21. If you answered 'yes' to #20, list the matching variables that will be used.**

N/A

**22. If you answered 'yes' to #20, briefly describe how the comparison group will be matched to the treatment group.**

N/A

**23. If you answered 'no' to #20, briefly describe why you believe that the treatment and comparison groups will possess the necessary comparability.**

N/A

**24. How many subjects will participate in the comparison group during the entire course of the program?**

300

## **TREATMENT GROUP**

### **25. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning treatment-group subjects.**

All participants in the treatment and comparison group will be under the supervision of the Sacramento County Probation Department. The comparison group of subject offenders will meet the same eligibility criteria as targeted offenders who receive intervention services through the Center. Both study groups will only include post-dispositional youth. A new centralized screening procedures will be developed through Probation Intake and the Courts to identify the initial pool of treatment and comparison referrals. Random assignment will be made by the Probation Department after a judicial determination that the Program would be in the best interest of the minor. Probation Officers will determine which probation referrals meet eligibility criteria. The Court Officers will note eligibility on court report. Judicial officers (judges and referees) will rule as to suitability for program and note on Minute Order. Random assignment will be made by the Probation Department after a judicial determination that the Program would be in the best interest of the minor. Kids assigned randomly to Center, but who do not sign behavior contract, have never started treatment. The start date of intervention services is the date the behavior contract is signed. NOTE: No matching variables will be used in the selection of treatment and comparison group cases.

### **26. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the treatment group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).**

Probation status: Second-time probation referral with or without wardship. Age: 10-16. Risk Factors: two or more risk factors involving (a) family issues: lack of supervision, control, criminal family influence, family violence, home factors; runaway; and (b) school problems: attendance, academic, and behavior problems, (c) substance abuse: pattern of alcohol and/or drug use; and (d) delinquency patterns: gang identification, theft, and delinquent patterns.

### **27. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for treatment group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).**

- \* Age
- \* Gender
- \* Family composition and characteristics
- \* Case demographics (gender, ethnicity, family background, number of siblings, child abuse or neglect history, and residency patterns.
- \* Most recent Juvenile Hall Risk Assessment score
- \* Prior arrest and court adjudication history
- \* Prior record of post-disposition detention (Ricardo M time)
- \* Nature of referral offense
- \* School/education record
  - Enrolled or not enrolled in school
  - Scholastic achievement: at grade or below
  - Are they enrolled in remedial education course of study
  - Number of days absent and expulsions during past 12 months
- \* Substance abuse history (self-report)
  - Drug of choice (use adopted county-wide definitions)
  - Frequency of use
  - Parental drug/alcohol use

**28. How many subjects will participate in the treatment evaluation research samples?**

900

**DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVENTIONS**

**29. List the interventions that only the treatment group will receive (interventions that are not received by the comparison group). Next to each intervention, state in measurable terms, the goals of the intervention. For example, a goal might be: "to improve reading level of program participants."**

Intensive electronic monitoring and supervision to minimize subsequent law enforcement citations and Juvenile Hall bookings for new offenses while participating in the Day Reporting Center Program. Individualized multi-disciplinary treatment and integrated case management staffing to improve the identification and matching for mental health counseling services and other interventions directed toward the special needs of targeted offender population. Classroom education to improve program participants' academic school performance and overall grade point average. Job readiness, employability skills preparation, and life skills development service tracks to improve the job/work search and entry-level employment/placement for program participants. Mentoring Program to promote interactive relationships/communication between mentors and program youth which will facilitate solutions to problems involving the completion of high school education, job options, and/or access to community social services. Chemical Dependency Education to decrease the incidents of alcohol and other drug use among program participants through a structured curriculum on drug and alcohol prevention, teen violence, and life skill development that help youth identify options, make choices, and change attitudes and behavior patterns.

**30. List the interventions that only the comparison group will receive (interventions that are not received by the treatment group).**

As a rule, monthly face-to-face monitoring contact through Probation Department field supervision staff.

**31. List the interventions that both the treatment and comparison groups will receive (i.e., in what ways, in terms of interventions, will the treatment and control subjects be treated in the same).**

Referral linkages, community-based agencies for extended social services, special treatment, and/or assistance with job search activities. Random drug testing. Violation consequences for follow-up arrests (criminal behavior) and failure to follow Court directives and restitution orders.